

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**International Trade Administration**

[C-475-812]

Grain-Oriented Electrical Steel From Italy: Extension of Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Time Limit for Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 20, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristen Johnson at 202-482-4406, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement VI, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Statutory Time Limits

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department to make a preliminary determination within 245 days after the last day of the anniversary month of an order/finding for which a review is requested and a final determination within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary determination is published. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within the time period, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend these deadlines to a maximum of 365 days and 180 days, respectively.

Background

On July 29, 1999, the Department published a notice of initiation of administrative review of the countervailing duty order on grain-oriented electrical steel from Italy, covering the period January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998 (see 64 FR 41075). The preliminary results are currently due no later than February 29, 2000.

Extension of Preliminary Results of Review

We determine that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the original time limit. Therefore, the Department is extending the time limits for completion of the preliminary results until no later than June 29, 2000. See Decision Memorandum from Holly A. Kuga, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, to

Robert S. LaRussa, Assistant Secretary, dated January 4, 2000, which is on file in the Central Records Unit. We intend to issue the final results no later than 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results notice.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Dated: January 12, 2000.

Holly A. Kuga,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, Group II.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology**

[Docket No.: 991215338-9338-01]

RIN 0693ZA36

Intent To Terminate Selected NVLAP Services

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice to terminate specific programs within the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).

SUMMARY: Under the NVLAP Procedures the Director of NIST, as delegated to the Chief of NVLAP, may terminate a specific laboratory accreditation program (LAP) when it is determined that a need no longer exists to accredit laboratories for the services covered under the scope of the LAP.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) requests written comments on the proposed termination of the Protocols Program offered by NVLAP, and announces a 60-day comment period for that purpose. The Protocols Program is comprised of the Government Open Systems Interconnection Profile (GOSIP) and Portable Operating Systems Interface (POSIX) areas of testing.

Persons interested in commenting on the proposed termination should submit their comments in writing to the address below.

DATE: Comments on the proposed termination must be received no later than March 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed terminations must be submitted to: Chief, National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2140, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2140, telephone number: (301) 975-4016, e-mail: nvlap@nist.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief, National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program, (301) 975-4016.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Institute of Standards and Technology administers the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program under regulations as found in Part 285 of Title 15 of the Code of Federal Regulations. NVLAP provides an unbiased third party evaluation and recognition of laboratory performance, as well as expert technical assistance to upgrade that performance, by accrediting calibration and testing laboratories found competent to perform specific tests or calibrations.

NVLAP is comprised of a set of Laboratory Accreditation Programs (LAPS) which are established on the basis of requests and demonstrated need. Each LAP includes specific test and/or calibration standards and related methods and protocols assembled to satisfy the unique needs for accreditation in a field of testing, field of calibration, product, or service.

Under the NVLAP Procedures the Director of NIST, as delegated to the Chief of NVLAP, may terminate a specific laboratory accreditation program (LAP) when it is determined that a need no longer exists to accredit laboratories for the services covered under the scope of the LAP. A review of all NVLAP programs revealed that the Protocols Program offered by NVLAP no longer has any participating laboratories, thus making its continuance impractical and financially nonviable. The Protocols Program is comprised of the GOSIP and POSIX areas of testing. Therefore, the Chief of NVLAP has determined that there no longer exists a need to continue this LAP.

After the comment period, the Chief of NVLAP shall determine if there is public support for the continuation of the LAP. If public comments support the continuation of the LAP, the Chief of NVLAP shall publish a **Federal Register** Notice announcing its continuation. If public support does not exist for continuation, the LAP will be terminated effective 90 days after the date of this notice of intent to terminate the LAP. If the LAP is terminated, NVLAP shall not longer grant or renew accreditations under the terminated program following the effective date of termination.

Copies of comments received will be available for inspection and copying at the Department of Commerce Central Reference and Records Facility, Room 6204, Hoover Building, Washington, DC 20230.

Dated: January 11, 2000.

Karen H. Brown,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 00-1298 Filed 1-19-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011400A]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a public meeting of the Red Drum Stock Assessment Panel (RDSAP).

DATES: This meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 7, 2000 and will conclude by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Hood, Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RDSAP will convene to re-evaluate a stock assessment on the status of the red drum stocks in the Gulf of Mexico prepared by NMFS. The RDSAP will consider available information, including but not limited to, commercial and recreational catches, natural and fishing mortality estimates, recruitment, fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, and data needs. These analyses will be used to determine the condition of the stocks and the levels of acceptable biological catch (ABC). If time allows for the assessment to be run, the RDSAP may also review estimates of stock size (biomass at maximum sustainable yield (Bmsy)) and minimum stock size thresholds (MSST). Otherwise estimates of stock size and minimum stock size thresholds will be discussed at a later meeting. Currently it is illegal to harvest or possess red drum in Federal waters.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the RDSAP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery

Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the RDSAP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the above address by January 31, 2000.

Dated: January 14, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011400B]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held the week of February 7, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: All meetings will be held at the Hilton Hotel, 500 W. Third Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Scientific Committee and Advisory Panel will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, February 7, continuing through Wednesday and Thursday, February 9 and 10, respectively.

The Council will meet jointly with the Alaska Board of Fisheries beginning at

9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 8, and begin their normal plenary session at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, continuing through Monday, February 14.

All meetings are open to the public except Executive Sessions which may be held during the week to discuss litigation and/or personnel matters.

Alaska Board of Fisheries/Council: The agenda for the Council's joint meeting with the Alaska Board of Fisheries will include the following subjects:

1. Preseason gear restrictions.
 2. Crab management issues.
 3. Management proposals of mutual concern.
 4. Habitat areas of particular concern.
 5. Halibut management issues.
- Council:* The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports
 - (a) Executive Director's Report
 - (b) NMFS Management Report
2. Halibut Charterboat Guideline Harvest Level/Management Measures: Final action.
3. Steller Sea Lions:
 - (a) Status report on implementation of Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives.
 - (b) Review regulatory amendment for Chiniak closures required for research on pollock fishery effects off Kodiak.
4. American Fisheries Act:
 - (a) Comment on proposed rule for 2000, and initiate regulatory action as appropriate.
 - (b) Analysis of Groundfish Processor Sideboards/Pollock Excessive Share: Initial review.
5. License Limitation Program: Pacific cod species/area endorsements: Initial review.
6. Groundfish Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS): Status report.
7. Council/Board of Fisheries Issues:
 - (a) Summary of joint meeting.
 - (b) Comment on Board of Fisheries management proposals, including state water Pacific cod closure.
 - (c) Further direction to staff on stand-down measures and Crab Fishery Management Plan revisions.
8. Research Priorities: Review and approve.
9. Habitat Areas of Particular Concern: Initial review of analysis.
10. Staff Tasking: Review proposals for changes in management groundfish fisheries and the sablefish and halibut individual fishery quota program.

Advisory Meetings

Advisory Panel: With the exception of the reports listed under Item 1, and the